

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O: J.HOGANSON

APPROVED BY S/S-O: J.HOGANSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 044388 TOSEC 040263

EXDIS

FOL RPT BEIRUT 1704 ACTION SECSTATE 24 FEB.

QUOTE

CONFIDENTIAL BEIRUT 1704

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC PINS PINT LE

SUBJECT: GALLAGHER AND DYKES

EXDIS

FROM CHARGE

1. SOURCE CLOSE TO JUMBLATT (FOUAD TAHINI) JUST CONTACTED THE EMBASSY TO SAY EMBASSY SHOULD SEND SOMEONE TO PICK UP THE TWO MEN AT A GIVEN PLACE TOMORROW 1730. THIS MAY BE THE BREAK WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR. MEANWHILE WE ARE HOLDING THIS INFORMATION EXTREMELY CLOSE. KIDNAPPERS HAVE BEEN PUBLICITY SHY.

2. IF TRUE, WE SHALL TAKE MEN FIRST TO A.U.H. WHERE THEY WILL BE EXAMINED, PROBABLY SPEND THE NIGHT (WITH SECURITY GUARD) AND IF IT SEEMS ADVISABLE TAKE FIRST AVAILABLE PLANE TO ATHENS (AROUND MIDDAY) THURSDAY. ROSS OR ANOTHER OFFICER WILL ACCOMPANY AS FAR AS ATHENS. FAMILIES CAN JOIN THEM THERE AND PAO CURTISS (STANDING BY ON RHODES) WILL ACCOMPANY TO WASHINGTON.

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3. WE SHALL TRY TO AVOID PUBLICITY OR CONTACT WITH PRESS. IN

THAT REGARD RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT UNDERTAKE MINIMUM POSSIBLE ACTIVITY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE SO AS TO AVOID PREMATURE TIP-OFF WHICH MIGHT JEOPARDIZE ENTIRE OPERATION. REQUEST NO RPT NO NOTIFICATION YET TO CURTISS OR ATHENS AND NO RPT NO NIACT IMMEDIATE TRAFFIC TO BEIRUT WHICH WOULD CAUSE NOTEWORTHY ACTIVITY HERE. CABLES OF IMMEDIATE PRECEDENCE OR LOWER WILL REACH US BY MORNING, IN AMPLE TIME FOR ACTION OR CONSIDERATION. THANKS AND HELP US KEEP OUR FINGERS CROSSED.

LAMBRAKIS

UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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NNN

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